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IAC-M-255
11 September 1956

I N T E L L I G E N C E A D V I S O R Y C O M M I T T E E

Minutes of Meeting Held in
IAC Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1045, 11 September 1956

Deputy Director (Intelligence), CIA
Robert Amory, Jr.
Presiding

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Howard Furnas, acting for Special Assistant for Intelligence,
Department of State
Major General Robert A. Schow, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence,
Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy
Major General Millard Lewis, Director of Intelligence, Headquarters,
United States Air Force
Brigadier General Richard Collins, Deputy Director for Intelligence,
The Joint Staff
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative
to the IAC
Mr. Ralph R. Roach, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation
representative to the IAC

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1. Approval of Minutes
5 September Meeting
(IAC-M-254)

Approved as written.

2. Watch Committee Report
No. 318

a. Noted this report, including the special report incorporated in the annex thereto.

b. The Chairman noted that the conclusions of the annex were purely estimative in nature, and queried whether such estimates should not have the approval of the IAC acting as a corporate body. Mr. Furnas added that the scope of the conclusions appeared to go beyond the IAC mandate to the Watch Committee (IAC-M-254, 5 September 1956, item 6 d), and that State had demurred to certain portions of the annex for this reason. Mr. Kent noted that the IAC on 5 September had considered the questions covered by the conclusions, and had limited itself to the footnote to page 1 of SNIE 30-4-56.

c. General Lewis said that it was vital that all available information bearing on the likelihood of hostilities be given at once to NIC, or if too sensitive, be considered in timely fashion by the Watch Committee or IAC in executive session. Several members raised questions about material that had apparently been given to top policy echelons before, or even without, being given to intelligence chiefs. All members (State and CIA in particular) undertook to check the dissemination of the material for which they were responsible.

d. With reference to the Watch Committee meeting scheduled for 12 September, the Chairman stated, and the members agreed, that the IAC might be convened, on call of any member, following that Watch Committee meeting, if necessary to consider any estimative conclusions proposed by the Watch Committee. (Cf. NSCID No. 1, para. 6). Admiral Frost noted that the draft NIC report and final Watch Committee report should be disseminated at once without waiting for the following day.

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IAC-M-255
11 September 1956

e. (In renewed discussion following item 5) Mr. Roach raised a question whether information bearing on the current Suez crisis should not be given at once not only to the NIC and to the agency or agencies of primary concern, but to all IAC members. General Lewis stressed that NIC had the primary mission of relating and evaluating all types of information available to the various IAC agencies, but that it also served as a check, through the participation by IAC agencies, that individual agencies receive key information. Several members commented on the large volume of reports having some bearing on the current crisis, and suggested the impracticability of having all of this go to all agencies. Mr. Roach expressed the desire that all agencies receive at least information having a direct and immediate indications significance. General Lewis noted that the time and frequency of distribution for key traffic must be checked to prevent any possibility of oversight or other undue delays.

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3. [redacted] NIE 71.2-56
Outlook for Algeria
(Memorandum to IAC, 6 September)

- 25X1
- [redacted]
4. Recommendation for
NIE on Laos
(Memorandum to IAC, 6 September)

Agreed that a new estimate on Laos be undertaken, but deferred a decision as to the scheduled date for completion pending further inquiries, particularly by State and the Joint Staff, regarding the timing of forthcoming policy and programming decisions affecting Laos.

IAC-M-255
11 September 1956

5. NIE 92-56
The Outlook for Bolivia

a. Approved as amended.

b. Noted the findings and approved the recommendations of the post-mortem on this estimate.

c. Noted the validity study of NIE 92-54, "Probable Developments in Bolivia," 19 March 1954.

6. Briefing by Continental Air Defense Command

The Chairman noted the receipt of a letter from General Partridge of the Continental Air Defense Command offering to arrange a briefing on the activities of that command for members of the IAC and designated members of their staffs. After a discussion of this matter, the Chairman said that a reply would be made to General Partridge stating that his offer was generally acceptable to the IAC members, subject to further arrangements regarding details such as timing.

Adjournment: 1130



Secretary

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